



August 28, 2006

**Warwick man is sentenced to seven years in prison for
selling crack cocaine and possessing a semi-automatic rifle**

A federal judge has sentenced **Luilli Villa**, 23, of Warwick, to 84 months in prison for a series of crack cocaine sales to an undercover Warwick detective. Police also found in Villa's apartment a semi-automatic rifle, which exposed him to a longer sentence.

United States Attorney Robert Clark Corrente announced the sentence, which U.S. District Court Judge William E. Smith imposed on August 25 in U.S. District Court, Providence.

In June, Villa pled guilty to five drug trafficking charges. At the plea hearing, Assistant U.S. Attorney Kenneth P. Madden said that the government could prove that, on four occasions in January, Villa sold crack cocaine to an undercover Warwick detective. On January 19, when Villa went to meet the detective to sell him \$300 worth of crack cocaine, police arrested him.

During a search of Villa's apartment on Fulton Street, police seized a 9 millimeter Ruger semi-automatic rifle. At the sentencing, Judge Smith called the firearm a "serious weapon," and imposed a sentence at least two years longer than Villa would have received had the firearm not been a factor.

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